



Hantavirus

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Purpose of Test:

To detect the presence of IgM and/or IgG antibodies to Sin Nombre Virus, the causative agent of Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome. Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS) is a deadly disease transmitted by infected rodents, primarily deer mice, through urine, droppings, or saliva. Humans can contract the disease when they breathe in aerosolized virus. Although rare, HPS is potentially deadly. Rodent control in and around the home remains the primary strategy for preventing hantavirus infection.

Method: Enzyme-Linked Immunoassay

Sample and Submission Guidelines:

1 ml serum, please indicate acute or convalescent and onset date

Prior notification to the laboratory is suggested. This allows for overnight sensitization of plates and quicker turn around time.

Properly labeled specimen must be accompanied by Virus and Misc. Serological Tests form, complete with on-set date, exposure information, and submitter address and phone number.

Possible Results and Meaning:

IgM positive indicative of current infection

IgG positive indicative of current or previous infection

If a negative result is reported in a patient with symptoms of Hantavirus Pulmonary

Syndrome, retest a convalescent serum 2-4 weeks post onset. Diagnosis of

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome is indicated if IgM antibody is present, or if a rising titer of IgG is seen between the acute and convalescent sera.

Charge for Test: none

Turn-Around-Time:

24 hours (M-F) with prior notification to laboratory that specimen is being submitted
Specimen may be tested on weekend, only with prior consultation with laboratory

Links:

www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hanta/hps/